

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 219540

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, MEX

SUBJECT: COVERAGE OF G-77 CONFERENCE, MEXICO CITY

REF: MEXICO 9460

1. IN VIEW OF THE POTENTIAL IMPORTANCE OF THE G-77 CONFERENCE AT MEXICO CITY ("CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES", SEPTEMBER 13-21), THE DEPARTMENT WOULD MUCH APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S PROVIDING
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COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE, INCLUDING REPORTING ON SIGNIFICANT

DEVELOPMENTS AND TRENDS AS THEY OCCUR, A FINAL WRAP-UP ASSESSMENT, AND MAJOR DOCUMENTATION. (WE UNDERSTAND, IN ADDITION, THAT A PREPARATORY MEETING WILL BE HELD IN MEXICO CITY FROM SEPTEMBER 9 TO 11.) ASPECTS WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN INCLUDE:

A. INDICATORS OF ONWARD G-77 ATTITUDES AND POSITIONS, CONSTRUCTIVE OR CONFRONTATIONAL, IN UPCOMING FORUMS SUCH AS CIEC, UNCTAD, UNGA, ETC.

B. DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS ON MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES, WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO INCLUDE NOT ONLY QUESTIONS OF COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BUT ALSO OTHER MAJOR NORTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC ISSUES. (TO SOME EXTENT THESE QUESTIONS MAY REPRESENT A FOLLOW-ON TO THE ECONOMIC RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AT COLOMBO.)

C. INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ESPECIALLY ANY MOVES TO GIVE A MORE FORMAL AND PERMANENT STRUCTURE TO THE G-77.

D. THE DYNAMICS OF THE G-77 INTERRELATIONSHIP, LEADERSHIP, HARMONY AND DISHARMONY. (THE LATTER MIGHT REFLECT SUCH ELEMENTS AS RADICAL/MODERATE, MORE DEVELOPED/LESS DEVELOPED, OIL/NON-OIL, NON-ALIGNED/OTHER G-77, AND REGIONAL FACTORS.

E. THE MIX OF POLITICIZED RHETORIC (E.G. NIEO, CERDS, ETC.) AND PRAGMATIC PROPOSALS; AND THE POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF EXTRANEOUS POLITICAL ISSUES

F. THE DEGREE OF CRITICISM OF THE U.S. AND WEST IN GENERAL AS WELL AS THE SOVIET BLOC.

G. ANY INDICATION OF ATTITUDES TOWARD THE BHUTTO PROPOSAL FOR A THIRD WORLD SUMMIT. (WE HAD EARLIER INDICATIONS DURING THE SUMMER ECOSOC THAT THE COLOMBO NAC AND THE MEXICO CITY CONFERENCE

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MIGHT SHED SOME LIGHT ON THIS, ALTHOUGH WE KNOW OF NO INDICATORS COMING FROM THE FORMER. ON THE WHOLE, CONVERSATIONS DURING THE ECOSOC REVEALED LITTLE INTEREST AND CONSIDERABLE RESERVE, INCLUDING THE VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE REDUNDANT, AS WELL AS SOME FEELING THAT PAKISTAN -- NOT A MEMBER OF THE NON-ALIGNED -- WAS ATTEMPTING TO PRE-EMPT TRADITIONAL NON-ALIGNED LEADERSHIP.)

H. ANY INDICATION OF PLANS FOR FUTURE G-77 MEETINGS, INCLUDING EXPECTATIONS OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FROM UN BODIES SUCH AS UNCTAD (WHICH WE OPPOSE).

2. FROM THE INFORMATION WE HAVE ON THE PREPARATORY MEETING OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS OF THE G-77 AT GENEVA, JULY 12-16, THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA AGREED TO FOR MEXICO CITY INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

A. WAYS OF CONSOLIDATING THE UNITY AND SOLIDARITY OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THROUGH NEW RELATIONSHIPS WITH A VIEW TO STRENGTHENING THEIR COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE AND BARGAINING POWER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NIEO.

B. MEASURES AND PRIORITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, INCLUDING (1) TRADE AND RELATED MEASURES; (2) MONETARY AND FINANCIAL MEASURES; (3) MEASURES IN THE FIELDS OF PRODUCTION, INFRA-STRUCTURE AND SERVICES; (4) MEASURES IN THE FIELDS OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION; AND (5) MEASURES IN OTHER FIELDS.

C. CONTRIBUTION OF THE UN SYSTEM TO IMPLEMENTING THE ABOVE PROGRAM.

D. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM.

3. A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE BY THE CONFIDENTIAL

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GENEVA EXPERTS RELATING TO THESE VARIOUS AGENDA ITEMS, MOST OF THEM REFERRING TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE G-77 MANILA DECLARATION. AMONG THESE WERE THE CREATION OF A SYSTEM OF TRADE PREFERENCES AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; ENDORSEMENT OF THE NON-ALIGNED RECOMMENDATION ON THE CREATION OF A COUNCIL OF RAW MATERIAL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATIONS AND OF OTHER MEASURES TO PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATIONS; THE PROMOTION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRY MULTINATIONAL MARKETING ENTERPRISES; THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INFORMATION CENTER IN HAVANA TO ASSIST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN DEALING WITH TNCS; STRENGTHENING OF REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND COOPERATION; AND VARIOUS OTHER PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE FIELDS MENTIONED UNDER 2(B) ABOVE. CONCERNING INSTITUTIONAL

ARRANGEMENTS, NO CLEAR RECOMMENDATION WAS MADE, BUT ALTERNATIVES PRESENTED RANGED FROM STRENGTHENING THE PRESENT SYSTEM TO CREATING A FULL-FLEDGED INTERGOVERNMENTAL MECHANISM AND A FULL-TIME SECRETARIAT.

4. WITH RESPECT TO THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AT COLOMBO, THERE SEEMED TO BE A CERTAIN DEFERENCE TO THE G-77 AS A WHOLE, INCLUDING REFERENCES TO THE UPCOMING MEXICO CITY CONFERENCE. THE ECONOMIC RECOMMENDATIONS REPRESENTED FOR THE MOST PART A REITERATION OF STANDARD THIRD WORLD DEMANDS, SUCH AS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NIEO, TRADE LIBERALIZATION, INDEXATION, COMMON FUND FOR COMMODITIES BUFFER STOCKS, PRODUCERS ASSOCIATIONS, INCREASED AND ASSURED FINANCIAL RESOURCES FLOWS, REDEPLOYMENT OF INDUSTRIES, GREATER EMPHASIS ON AGRICULTURE, MONETARY REFORM, CONTROL OF TNCs, DEBT RELIEF, ETC. SPECIAL WRINKLES INCLUDED THE IDEA OF A THIRD WORLD COMMON FUND IF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FAILED TO AGREE

ON A GLOBAL FUND, AND AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE IDEA OF COUNCIL OF RAW MATERIAL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATIONS. PRINCIPAL NEW IDEAS (WHICH ARE TO BE STUDIED FURTHER), WERE THE SRI LANKAN PROPOSALS FOR A DEVELOPING COUNTRIES COMMERCIAL BANK (ENGAGING PRINCIPALLY IN INVESTMENT BANKING AND RELYING MOSTLY ON OPEC SURPLUSES) AND A DEVELOPING CONFIDENTIAL

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COUNTRIES "COUNTERVAILING CURRENCY" (APPARENTLY INVOLVING OPEC DEPOSITS WITH THE IMF AGAINST WHICH SDRS WOULD BE ISSUED TO LDCS, PARTICULARLY THE MSAS). A THIRD NEW IDEA INVOLVED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PAYMENTS UNION.

5. FOR BACKGROUND WE WILL POUCH THE DOCUMENTATION WE HAVE ON THE GENEVA PREPARATORY MEETING (PASSED TO MISSION GENEVA ON THE QT) AND PERTINENT DOCUMENTS ON THE COLOMBO NAC, IN ADDITION TO REPEATING CERTAIN MESSAGES ON THE LATTER. ROBINSON

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